

TEC Tribal Issues Topic Group

Judith Holm, Chair April 21, 2004 Albuquerque, NM





- February Tribal Summit with Secretary of Energy (Kristen Ellis, CI)
 - Held in conjunction with NCAI mid-year conference
 - First Summit held in response to DOE Indian Policy
 - Addressed barriers to communication and developing framework for interaction





- Summit (continued)
 - Federal Register Notice published in March soliciting input on how to improve summit process and implement DOE Indian Policy comment period ends 4/30/04
 - -Tribal POC meeting to be held in May





- Summit (continued)
 - Some of the issues/concerns expressed by Topic
 Group Tribal members included:
 - Not a true "summit" as called for in Policy
 - Secretary and other high-level decision makers need to spend more time with Tribes in true dialog
 - More Tribal presenters needed/someone from Tribes at same level as Secretary of Energy
 - Need to develop protocols for future summits





- RW Approach to Working with Tribal Governments (Jay Jones, OCRWM)
 - Slides will be posted on TEC Website
 - Ofc. of National Transportation created 2003
 - Transportation Strategic Plan issue 11/03 (available on OCRWM Website)
 - Build on established relationships





- RW Approach (continued)
 - Recognition of Tribal sovereignty/
 consultation with all affected Tribal governments
 - Importance of one-on-one meetings with individual Tribes stressed by Topic Group Tribal members

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- RW Approach (continued)
 - Approximately 40 Tribes along routes
 - Conduct a meeting this summer to discuss Tribal preferences for going forward
- Upcoming Decisions/Activities
 - Rail alignment EIS
 - Cask/rolling stock procurement
 - Routing criteria/emergency preparedness

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- TEPP Navajo Nation (Tom Clawson)
 - 1/4/04 Needs Assessment
 - Identified strengths and weaknesses
 - No specific HazMat plan existed for dealing with RAM transportation incident
 - Used existing TEPP tools to develop Annex to Emergency Operations Plan
 - Identified need for radiological training
 - Next Step is TEPP train-the-trainer sessions





- TEPP (continued)
 - DOE and FEMA working together on EMS process
 - -Ella McNeil working with DHS on emergency preparedness issues, incorporating needs assessments, etc.
 - MERRTT has been conducted for Accord
 Pueblos





- TRANSCOM Access (Judith Holm)
 - Shoshone-Bannock Tribe experiencing difficulty logging into system because of dial-up service
 - Gates Foundation recommended as possible source of funding
 - Operation Respond makes available realtime information about contents of railcars





- Tribal Resource Booklet (Judith Holm)
 - July 2003 edition Available on NTP Website

Tribal Issues Topic Group



- Future of Tribal Issues Topic Group
 - Members asked to give some thought to possible study/issue areas
 - More Tribal participation needed
 - Tribal members of topic group find it a useful tool and one of a kind
 - Opportunity for networking, sharing information
 - Good idea to continue to meet before main TEC





Action Items

- Email group members info on Fed Register Notice soliciting input on improving Summit
- Provide group with Gates Foundation URL
- Provide group with info on Operation Respond
- Followup call to members on future of Group